



Sims Middle School

2200 Whitmire Highway
Union, SC 29379

Grades	6-8 Middle School	
Enrollment	739 Students	
Principal	Mickey Connolly	864-429-1755
Superintendent	Dr. Kristi V. Woodall	864-429-1740
Board Chair	Dr. Betty JoAnn McMorris	864-427-4149

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2013 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING
2013	Average	Average
2012	Average	Good
2011	Average	Average
2010	Average	Average
2009	Average	Average

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision
- At-Risk – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2020 SC Performance Vision

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

<http://ed.sc.gov>
<http://www.eoc.sc.gov>

Percent of Student PASS Records Matched for Purpose of Computing Growth Rating

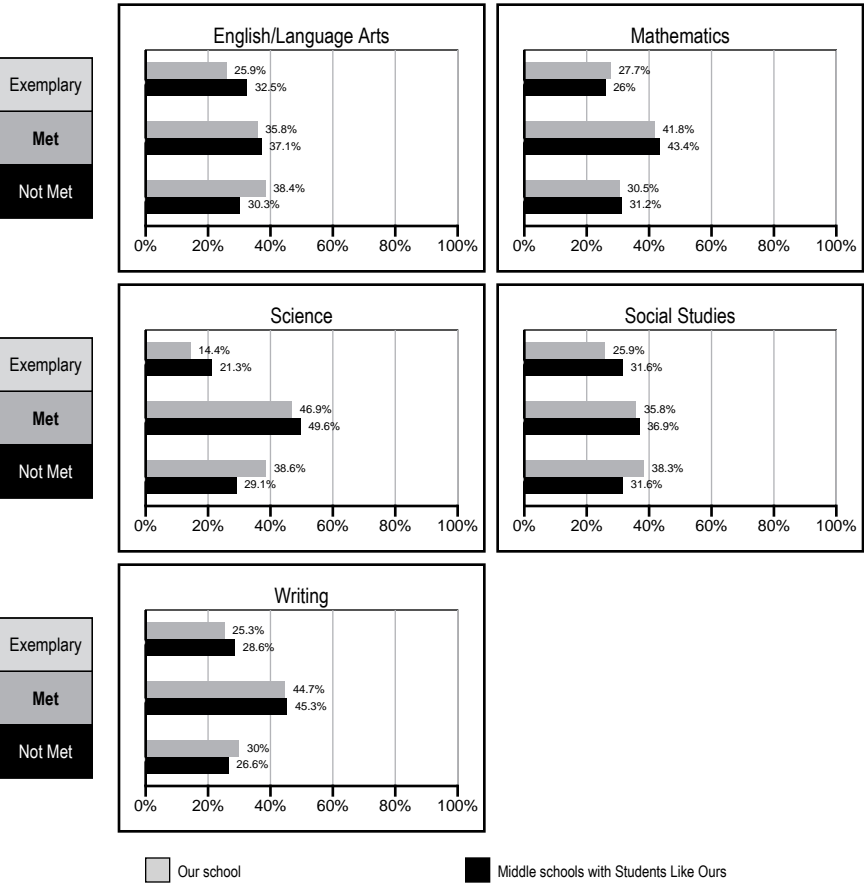
Percent of students tested in 2012-13 whose 2011-12 test scores were located | 98.9%

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
3	10	43	2	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 03/14/2014.

Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS)



* Middle schools with Students Like Ours are middle schools with poverty indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for the school.

Definition of Critical Terms

Exemplary	"Exemplary" means the student demonstrated exemplary performance in meeting the grade level standard.
Met	"Met" means the student met the grade level standard.
Not Met	"Not Met" means that the student did not meet the grade level standard.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

End of Course Tests

Percent of tests with scores of 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	98.3%	98.3%
English 1	98.5%	97.5%
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	N/A
All Subjects	98.9%	97.9%

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=739)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	15.5%	Up from 14.3%	22.7%	24.6%
Retention rate	2.6%	Down from 2.7%	0.8%	0.6%
Attendance rate	94.2%	Down from 95.0%	95.6%	95.9%
Served by gifted and talented program	13.0%	N/A	18.5%	18.5%
With disabilities	16.0%	N/A	13.9%	13.0%
Older than usual for grade	7.4%	N/A	6.0%	4.8%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.7%	0.6%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=57)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	71.9%	Up from 70.7%	58.8%	61.5%
Continuing contract teachers	87.7%	Down from 91.4%	76.3%	77.2%
Teachers returning from previous year	87.5%	Down from 92.0%	85.6%	85.9%
Teacher attendance rate	94.7%	Up from 91.6%	94.7%	94.9%
Average teacher salary*	\$48,174	Up 2.1%	\$46,702	\$47,313
Professional development days/teacher	15.9 days	Down from 23.0 days	11.1 days	10.1 days
School				
Principal's years at school	8.0	Up from 7.0	6.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	19.1 to 1	Up from 17.2 to 1	21.8 to 1	22.1 to 1
Prime instructional time	88.4%	Up from 85.5%	89.0%	89.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	95.3%	Up from 94.6%	98.2%	99.0%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$6,630	Up 12.4%	\$7,100	\$7,239
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	70.0%	Down from 73.8%	63.0%	63.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	69.0%	Down from 73.1%	61.0%	61.0%

* Includes current year teachers contracted for 185 or more days.

** Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

The staff at Sims Middle School continually strives to provide our students with a high- quality education. Our students are provided diverse and rigorous educational experiences with high expectations and academic excellence as our primary goals.

The 2012-2013 school year allowed for many challenging and stimulating opportunities to move toward successful obtainment of our school's goal. Our students, faculty, and staff experienced a great deal of success in academics, the arts, and athletics while effectively participating in many service-learning activities. The accomplishments of SMS included 8 students being recognized as SC Junior Scholars, 1 student being named Duke TIP Scholar, and 102 students being inducted in the National Jr. Beta Club. The academic efforts at SMS continued through our End of Course tests where averages in English I, Algebra I, and Biology I exceeded the state average in every subject. Our school was also named a South Carolina Silver Award recipient for outstanding academic student performance. Our athletic activities at Sims Middle School also experienced success with the football and wrestling teams winning the Peachtree Conference Championship and our girls' softball team enjoying another undefeated season. Our band, chorus, and orchestra received Excellent ratings at the South Carolina Concert Festival.

While in the classroom, our teachers continued the expansion of their professional learning community by making consistent improvement in the instructions provided to the students. A notable characteristic of our entire faculty for improved student learning was the method and the constant evaluation of classroom and statewide test data. Teachers used common planning times to collaborate and align instruction to state supported documents. In order to identify academic strengths and weaknesses of individual students, teachers analyzed test data and used the information to implement instructional practices that lead all students to strong academic achievement.

The administrators and teachers at Sims Middle School are continuously seeking new instructional strategies that will enable them to move all students to their greatest academic potential. A notable increase in students' reading was seen during the daily SSR time of SMS Reads and with the number of books checked out of the library. Another area for high academic achievement was seen with the realization of advanced level instruction in ELA, Math, and Science. A positive school climate was enhanced with the implementation of the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program and then maintained with celebrations and field trips for students who had exhibited good behavior through the year.

Sims Middle School is fortunate to have a new facility, and a caring community which provides support and assistance to our students and staff. We had a successful year and will continue to provide as many opportunities for success as possible. Our school is dedicated to helping students achieve both in and out of the classroom.

Melissa Gregory, SIC Chairperson
Mickey Connolly, Principal

Evaluations by Teachers, Students and Parents

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	38	208	98
Percent satisfied with learning environment	89.5%	86.1%	82.6%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	92.1%	82.1%	73.2%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	68.4%	85.6%	74.2%

* Only students at the highest middle school grade level and their parents were included.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A–Not Applicable N/AV–Not Available N/C–Not Collected N/R–Not Reported I/S–Insufficient Sample

ESEA/Federal Accountability Rating System

In July 2013, the South Carolina Department of Education was granted a waiver from several accountability requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). This waiver allowed SC to replace the former pass/fail system with one that utilizes more of the statewide assessments already in place and combine these subject area results with graduation rate (in high schools) to determine if each school met the target or made progress toward the target. This analysis results in a letter grade for the school rather than the pass/fail system of previous years. For a detailed review of the matrix for each school and districts that determined the letter grade, please use the following link: <http://ed.sc.gov/data/eSEA/> or request this information from your child's district or school.

Overall Weighted Points Total	76.6
Overall Grade Conversion	C

Index Score	Grade	Description
90-100	A	Performance substantially exceeds the state's expectations.
80-89.9	B	Performance exceeds the state's expectations.
70-79.9	C	Performance meets the state's expectations.
60-69.9	D	Performance does not meet the state's expectations.
Less than 60	F	Performance is substantially below the state's expectations

Accountability Indicator for Title I Schools

Sims Middle School school has been designated as a:

- ☐ Title I Reward School for Performance - among the highest performing Title I schools in a given year.
- ☐ Title I Reward School for Progress – one of the schools with substantial progress in student subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Focus School – one of the schools with the highest average performance gap between subgroups.
- ☐ Title I Priority School – one of the 5% lowest performing Title I schools.
- ☐ Title I School – does not qualify as Reward, Focus or Priority School.
- ☒ Non-Title I School – therefore the designations above are not applicable.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	2.3%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	4.9%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	4.2%	0.0%	No
Student attendance rate	94.2%	94.0%*	Yes

* Or greater than last year

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Performance By Group

Subgroups	ELA Mean	Math Mean	Science Mean	Social Studies Mean	ELA % Tested	Math % Tested
Grades 6-8						
All Students	634.1	642.7	610.1	620.7	100.0	100.0
Male	631.3	640.6	609.6	625.4	100.0	100.0
Female	637.1	644.9	610.6	615.4	100.0	100.0
White	648.4	654.9	623.7	635.0	100.0	100.0
African American	618.3	628.9	595.7	605.2	100.0	100.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disabled	585.6	596.9	570.4	577.7	100.0	100.0
Limited English Proficient	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Subsidized meals	622.0	632.1	599.9	608.1	100.0	100.0
Annual Measurable Objective (AMO)	628.0	628.0	628.0	628.0	95.0	95.0

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
English/Language Arts							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	250	100	39.9	30	30	60.1
	7	254	100	36.6	33.3	30.1	63.4
	8	269	100	41.4	31.2	27.4	58.6
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	245	100	29.4	42	28.6	70.6
	7	243	100	41.4	32.6	25.9	58.6
	8	236	100	43.3	32.2	24.5	56.7
Mathematics							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	250	100	31.3	40.7	28	68.7
	7	254	99.2	32.2	34.7	33.1	67.8
	8	269	100	31.9	50.2	17.9	68.1
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	245	100	22.3	42.4	35.3	77.7
	7	243	100	38.9	38.1	23	61.1
	8	236	100	29.6	45.5	24.9	70.4
Science							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	125	100	50	45.8	4.2	50
	7	253	99.6	35.1	42	22.9	64.9
	8	136	100	40.6	32.3	27.1	59.4
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	124	98.4	46.2	42.9	10.9	53.8
	7	242	100	36.1	50	13.9	63.9
	8	119	100	35	43.6	21.4	65

Abbreviations for Missing Data

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PASS Performance By Grade Level

	Grade	Enrollment 1st Day of Testing	% Tested	% Not Met	% Met	% Exemplary	% Met or Exemplary
Social Studies							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	128	100	28.6	50.8	20.6	71.4
	7	253	99.6	42	33.1	24.9	58
	8	133	100	30	30	40	70
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	121	100	35	45.3	19.7	65
	7	241	100	43	34.2	22.8	57
	8	117	100	31	29.3	39.7	69
Writing							
2012	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	7	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	8	274	99.3	29.9	38.4	31.7	70.1
2013	3	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	5	N/A	N/AV	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	6	247	98.8	28.6	45.8	25.6	71.4
	7	243	95.9	31.5	42.7	25.9	68.5
	8	239	99.6	28.4	46.6	25	71.6

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